

App. No. 09/682,094

**In the Specification:**

Please make the following changes in the Abstract:

"On the preferred embodiment, the basic system comprises a communication serial bus 8, which interconnects one or several remote smart micro-units 14, minimal in size and cost, with a master controller unit 2. The remote unit 14 controls and monitors the operation of one or several sensors, actuators or peripherals 12. The resulting network system provides reliability, and easy and low-cost deployment. The network utilizes the Inter-Integrated Circuit communication (IIC) protocol, with one or more masters 2 on one end of an external bus 8, and one or more slave remote units 14 distributed along the bus 8. The peripherals 12 are powered, controlled and connected to the network via the remote unit 14 attached to them. The remote units are configured and operated via the network, receiving commands issued by the master 2. An extender is used to allow devices to be connected over the IIC bus."